MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Monday, January 30, 2006 3:10 p.m. Eberhard Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Representative Nitz, Chair of the House Standing Committee on Agriculture, and Representative Newell, Majority Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Health Policy, called the Joint House Committee Meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Proos, Hune, Spade, Law. (8/11)

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representatives Stahl, Mayes, Sheltrown. (3/11)

Representative Newell made a motion to excuse absent members, supported by Representative Hune. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

The Chair stated that the purpose of this meeting would be to receive testimony and discuss the topic of Avian Influenza Preparedness as well as Michigan's preparedness in the event of a pandemic.

The following individuals spoke to Committee members present:

R.M. "Mick" Fulton, D.V.M., PhD., representing the Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health, Michigan State University (MSU)

Mark F. Hansen, MSU Extension Services

Kim Singh, representing the Mid-Michigan District Health Department for Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties

Linda Van Gills, representing the District Health Department #10 for Crawford, Kalkaska, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Newaygo, Oceana and Wexford Counties

George House, representing Michigan Allied Poultry

Dan Lennon, representing the Michigan Turkey Producers

Mark Lemoine, representing Spectrum Health

Tonia Ritter, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau

Questions and discussion followed.

There being no further business before the Committee, Chair Nitz declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 4:59 p.m.

Representative Neal Nitz, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk (517) 373-8538